

Lesson/Activity Title:

# STOPPING THE SPREAD OF GERMS



**Time:** 10–15 minutes for focus; 10–15 minutes for teach/model; 10–15 minutes for guided practice; 90–120 minutes for independent practice (may be divided over two class periods); 20–30 minutes for closure

## Instructional Goals:

- The students will use the **PebbleGo** Science online database to research germs and illnesses, such as the coronavirus
- The students will use the **PebbleGo** Science online database to identify healthy habits
- The students will create a sign on how to stop the spread of germs

## Integrated Content Standards

- AASL Standards Framework for Learners (<http://standards.aasl.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/AASL-Learner-Framework-Spread.pdf>)
- Common Core English Language Arts/Literacy Standards ([www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/))
- National Educational Technology Standards for Students (<https://www.iste.org/standards/for-students>)
- NCTE/IRA Standards for English Language Arts ([www.ncte.org/standards/ncte-ira](http://www.ncte.org/standards/ncte-ira))
- Next Generation Science Standards ([www.nextgenscience.org/](http://www.nextgenscience.org/))

## Materials/Resources:

- **PebbleGo Science** online database
- Germs and Illnesses Research handout
- Paper
- Writing and drawing supplies, such as pencils, markers, colored pencils, and crayons

## Procedures/Lesson Activities:

### Focus

1. Prepare for the lesson by talking about germs and illnesses. Ask leading questions such as:
  - What are germs?
  - How do germs affect people?
  - What kinds of illnesses and diseases come from germs?
2. Record responses and write the Healthy Habits on the board. Ask if any students know what this phrase means. If not, define the phrase for students by stating that it's things people can do to stay healthy and to stop the spread of germs. Ask students to brainstorm a list of healthy habits and record their responses.

## Teach/Model



3. Explain to students that now that they know what it means to use healthy habits, they will have the chance to create a sign to remind themselves and encourage others to use healthy habits.
4. Demonstrate accessing the **PebbleGo Science** online database and navigate to one of the categories such as the "Feeling Sick" articles.
5. Select the article titled "What Are Germs?" Click on different tabs within the article to demonstrate navigating through the information.
6. Show students the readaloud feature by clicking the appropriate icon to the left of the text.
7. Pass out the Germs and Illnesses Research handout and read the instructions together.
8. Explain to students that they will research facts about germs and illnesses. Students may use the **PebbleGo Science** articles "What Are Germs," "Viruses," and "COVID-19."

## Guided Practice

9. Gather your class and begin completing the Germs and Illnesses Research handout together until students understand how to proceed.
10. Refer students to the bottom of the handout and explain that it is important to give credit to the source of information. Click on the "cite" button within the **PebbleGo** article and have the students assist you in filling out the bibliography portion of the handout.

## Independent Practice

11. Allow students ample time to complete the Germs and Illnesses Research handout.
12. Provide students with a piece of paper and art supplies. Ask them to create a sign that teaches and encourages healthy habits. Students can write and/or illustrate these.
13. Have students choose a place to post their sign where it will be seen often. This could be a high traffic area in their home such as an entryway, the kitchen, or a hall near a shared bathroom. Students can create multiple signs if they would like.

## Closure

14. Allow students to share their signs in small groups and discuss similarities and differences between them. They can also share their sign with their family at home and discuss why healthy habits are important.

## Extend/Enrich

15. Invite students to think about how they can use healthy habits throughout their day. They can work with their family to create a plan for when and how to best use the healthy habits listed on their sign. For example, a family might plan to wash hands before and after meals and after using the bathroom. They might agree to cough or sneeze into their elbows or a tissue. They can discuss how their plan will help stop the spread of germs and keep themselves and others healthy.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Germs and Illnesses Research**

Use information from the **PebbleGo Science** database to complete the handout.

What are germs?

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What is a virus?

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What are some viruses that can make people sick?

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Why is it important to use healthy habits during a pandemic such as COVID-19?

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List three healthy habits that help stop the spread of germs.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how these habits can help people stay healthy.

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Bibliography:

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Create a sign to encourage yourself and others to use healthy habits. Write and illustrate healthy habits that help stop the spread of germs. Share it with others and post it in your house to help everyone stay healthy.

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a black border, intended for students to draw and write their healthy habit signs.